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FCC ISSUES NOTICE SEEKING DATA FOR ITS EIGHTH ANNUAL CMRS COMPETITION REPORT

Washington, D.C. – Today, the Federal Communications Commission sought comment on the status of competition in mobile wireless services. The Commission adopted a Notice of Inquiry seeking information and data to use in its Eighth Annual Report to Congress on competition in the commercial mobile radio services (CMRS) industry, which is scheduled to be completed sometime next summer. The Commission requested data that will allow it to examine more completely the extent to which consumers have choices among mobile wireless providers, services, and technologies. The Commission's Notice seeks data on both national and regional levels.

The Commission asked for comment on its analysis of competition in the mobile telephone and mobile data sectors in the Seventh Annual CMRS Competition Report, released in July 2002. With respect to mobile telephony, the Commission asked for data on a number of topics: service availability, subscribership levels, pricing, usage, average revenue per unit, and churn.

The Commission asked for similar information on the mobile data sector, including subscribership and usage levels, service availability, and pricing for each of the individual mobile data services and for mobile Internet services overall. The Commission would like information regarding the specific capabilities of the various mobile data services, including text messaging, e-mail, web access, and corporate server access, and invites comment on the extent to which these services compete with each other, with voice service, and with wireline data services.

Action by the Commission December 11, 2002, by Notice of Inquiry (FCC 02-327). Chairman Powell, Commissioners Abernathy, Copps and Martin, with Commissioner Adelstein not participating, and Commissioner Copps issuing a separate statement.

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